

2013

## Jefferson Currents: Spring 2013

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# Currents

The Energy Conservation Newsletter • Spring **2013**

## Dr. Watts' Brilliant Savings

### Here Comes the Bride



Regular readers of this newsletter may remember the energy-efficient successes achieved through retrocommissioning (RCx) of the Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems of Foerderer Pavilion and the Scott Building. RCx is a systematic, documented process that focuses on the efficient operation of an existing building's HVAC systems and controls, similar to a "tune-up" on your car. Through field-testing both systems and components, RCx identifies low-cost operational and maintenance improvements that save energy and cut costs.

In a new initiative, earlier this year, the wizards in our Control Shop "wedded" that part of our building automation system that controls the HVAC systems serving the Bluemle Life Sciences Building (BLSB) with the analytical systems of *Cimetrics*, a Boston firm offering continuous commissioning (CCx). This will analyse our systems round the clock, looking to improve our energy efficiency.

This "marriage" is a pilot project, permitting us to evaluate the impact of Continuous Commissioning at BLSB. ■

### Come Out & Celebrate With Us!

We will celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd in both the Gibbon Building and the Lubert Plaza from 11am to 1pm.

Take a few moments from your busy day and celebrate the Earth. Think about what it means to you. Consider the impact that you have on the Earth. Then read below to learn winning ways to treat the Earth better than in the past.

**Winner #1** Many readers still use incandescent lamps. (You know who you are!) Replace each incandescent lamp with a compact fluorescent lamp, the lamp that looks like a coil of light.

These lamps pay for themselves within months and last for years. It'll be like giving yourself a raise.

**Winner #2** Take shorter showers. Longer showers waste water and also the energy to heat the water.

**Winner #3** Hot or cold, water cleans. Wash with cold water. You'll be saving the energy to heat the water. Save more by only washing with full loads. ■

## ON THE HOME FRONT

### INSULATION or How I learned to stuff it

Whether you lay it in batts, blow it in bunches or pump it into tight spaces, installing insulation in one of its many guises is one of the best ways to cut heating and cooling costs. Your home will be more comfortable and your wallet a little fatter.

If you wish some help in locating drafts due to poor or no insulation, consider a Thermal Leak Detector.

Remember, insulation has no moving parts and never needs maintenance. It just delivers savings year after year after year. You gotta love it. ■

### Be a Heroine!

Co-mingled recycling – a fancy term simply meaning "NO SORTING REQUIRED" – challenges each of us on campus to dispose of our recyclables such as plastic, glass, aluminum and paper at any location, i.e., any blue receptacle.

The small, individual act of recycling your recyclables reduces landfill waste and pollution while helping to keep our world clean and livable. In its' own small way, it's definitely a heroic gesture that will also save money for Jefferson.

Regrettably, only about 10% of these materials are recycled here.

Points of contact on campus to promote recycling in University and Hospital buildings are **Dave Evangelist** at 215-503-1835 and **Richard Dougherty** at 215-955-6170, respectively.

**Celebrate Earth Day at Jefferson on Monday, April 22.**



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## Currents

SPRING 2013

### Ka-ching!!

A committed group, our Energy Team consists of a few dozen individuals in concert with the campus' superior building automation system.

Last summer, during periods of significant high electric demand, the Team reduced electricity use on ten separate occasions.

This load shedding saved almost 1,700 KW of demand (8%) and translates into \$230,000 in savings during the upcoming summer. ■

## Bright Ideas

### The heat's ON but no one's home!



Room scheduling, academic scheduling and event management have been carried out for several years now with the aid of a software package, EMS Campus, that manages space allocations on campus.

Linda A. Milburn, the Universities Academic Space Coordinator, manages

this facility-scheduling function and reports to the Office of the Registrar.

Late last year, Joel Sumner, an Administrative and Special Events Manager in Custodial Services who is a user of *EMS Campus* was attending a training session on updates for *EMS Campus*. Here, Joel learned of energy savings generated by integrating *EMS Campus* with a new program, *events2hvac*.

This merging of the two programs serves as a communication bridge between *EMS Campus* and Jefferson's existing Building Automation System. In practice, this arrangement will automatically setback the HVAC systems in specific rooms during unoccupied periods.

The Energy Services Department head, Randy Haines, is optimistic as he begins

to evaluate this measure. Where installed at other Universities, the results have been exciting. As for Joel, he's seen here collecting his \$100 award from Randy.

Note that most of our recent \$100 winners have identified instances of energy waste. Take a lesson from Joel and, as you go about "your day", keep your eyes and ears open for energy waste.

Then contact me, Randy Haines, at 215-503-6099 or [randolph.haines@jefferson.edu](mailto:randolph.haines@jefferson.edu), and tell me about it. After all, you could use a \$100, couldn't you? ■

### "WOW"

Over 35% of all the electricity used on our entire campus is generated by wind!

**DON'T FORGET**  
**Celebrate Earth Day on Monday, April 22.**



Look for the EPA's Energy Star label on products that use less energy, save money on your utility bills and help protect the environment.

